



MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TENNESSEE REHABILITATION CENTER GRADUATES TAKE STEPS TO MORE INDEPENDENT LIVES

STUDENTS FROM EVERY CORNER OF THE STATE OVERCOME BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT

SMYRNA, Tenn.— Seventy-five students with significant disabilities donned cap and gown on Friday, August 25 and proudly walked or rolled across the stage at the Tennessee Rehabilitation Center (TRC) in Smyrna. The men and women, who represent 31 counties from across Tennessee, are both dedicated and driven to enter or re-enter the workforce and better their lives. Their studies and hard work in programs like Building Maintenance, Business Education Training, Food Service, Custodial Training and Warehouse Training have enabled them to do just that. With certificate in hand, these new graduates are now moving on to the next stage in their lives.

“The Department of Human Services is committed to working with individuals with disabilities and teaching them the skills they need to become successfully employed in their own communities,” said Assistant Commissioner for Rehabilitation Services Andrea Cooper. “The services offered at TRC truly do assist individuals in achieving their highest level of functioning so they can live and work as independently as possible.”

The Tennessee Rehabilitation Center is a state-operated comprehensive rehabilitation facility. It is one of only nine such centers in the nation. Services are provided on campus, and the majority of clients live on site while receiving services. The length of programs offered at TRC varies, depending upon the individual client's interest, abilities and needs. Support services are also offered to clients, including residential living skills training, driver's education, and physical and occupational therapy.

The TRC recently began a new Hospitality Training program to meet the needs of the growing hospitality and entertainment industry. Hospitality Training will offer instruction to students in areas of banquet preparation. Students will learn table set up, food preparation and serving, take down and clean up, inventory control, stocking supplies, sanitation skills and safety awareness. This program will target components of the already existing Food Service, Custodial, and Warehouse training programs and is designated to prepare students to work at larger hotels that focus on catering and banquet events.

TRC is part of the Division of Rehabilitation Services within the Tennessee Department of Human Services. TRC serves more than 1,000 Tennesseans with disabilities each year. Since opening its doors in 1977, TRC has served more than 25,000 individuals. For more information about the Division of Rehabilitation Services, please visit: <http://state.tn.us/humanserv/rehab/trc.htm>

The following page contains a list of TRC graduates by county:

CITIZENS PLAZA, 15TH FLOOR
400 DEADERICK STREET
NASHVILLE, TN 37248
615.313.4700

FirstName	LastName	County
Jonathan	Graves	Blount
Johnsie	Hays	Blount
Jennifer	Cauthen	Cheatham
John	Muriel	Cheatham
Julian	Gray	Coffee
Jessica	Klyce	Crockett
Raven	Lamb	Cumberland
Anthony	Alsup	Davidson
Gregory	Smith	Davidson
Antwan	Turner	Davidson
Shauna	Shrum	Davidson
Dana	Watts	Davidson
Rachel	Browning	Davidson
Ater	Majak	Davidson
Amy	Riddle	Davidson
Chad	Bailey	Davidson
Edward	Driver	Davidson
Rashad	Brown	Davidson
Michael	Davis	Dyer
Stephanie	Laws	Franklin
Caroline	Gentry	Hamilton
Andrea	Fuller	Hamilton
Sheena	McDaniel	Hamilton
Jonathan	Evans	Hamilton
Amanda	Kelly	Hardin
Elizabeth	Baharloo	Henry
April	Humphrey	Hickman
Jessie	Weidner	Hickman
Jeremy	Hackert	Hickman
Jesse	Mitchell	Knox
Angela	Holt	Knox
Lowell	McCauley	Knox
Kevin	Reagan	Knox
James	Wright	Lincoln
Angela	Bradford	Lincoln
Heather	Mumbower	Madison
David	Norris	Marshall
James	Griffin	Maury
Bill	Sanders	Maury
Walter	Hendrix	Maury
Jay	Zakary	Maury
Casey	Calhoun	McMinn
John	Becker	McMinn
Crystal	Logsdon	Montgomery
Rebecca	Harness	Morgan
Robert	Bird	Obion
Alfredo	Lopez	Putnam
Victoria	Moore	Robertson
Joe Joe	Collier	Rutherford
Michael	Collier	Rutherford

FirstName	LastName	County
Ans	Iqbal	Rutherford
Melanie	Thompson	Rutherford
Teresa	Yovichin	Rutherford
Terry	Gray	Rutherford
Jennifer	Crick	Rutherford
Kevin	Hanson	Rutherford
Randy	Ball	Rutherford
Nicholas	Sharp	Rutherford
Robert	Ransby	Rutherford
Portia	Streator	Rutherford
Jessica	Asbury	Rutherford
Samuel	Dees	Sequatchie
Ashley	McCarter	Sevier
Jesse	Stein	Shelby
Trevor	Pate	Shelby
Brittany	Carter	Shelby
Susanne	Morrison	Shelby
Dustin	Harper	Sullivan
Marty	McCullough	Sumner
James	Harris	Sumner
Deborah	Bass	Sumner
Ty	Davis	Sumner
Jon	McCloud	Washington
Justin	Saults	Washington
Sarabeth	Turman	Wayne